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birds we find only thirteen, twelve and eleven, and still fewer in such forms as the ostrich and emeu.

To tabulate our list then, we find for the

Thigh	= 1 = Femur.
Leg	= 2 = tibia and fibula.
Knee	= 2 = patella and sesamoid of fibula.
Tarsus { Tibio-tarsus	= 3 = tibiale, fibulare and intermedium.
{ Tarso-metatarsus	= 1 = centrale.
{ Sesamoid between them	= 1 = tarsal sesamoid.
Metatarsus	= 4 = three in tarsus metatarsus and the os metatarsale accessorium.
Sesamoid beyond	= 1 = podal sesamoid.
Phalanges	= 14 = greatest number in one foot.
Total	29 in pelvic limb.

In this enumeration the reader will observe that if I have left out any such ossifications as the tendons may assume, they properly belong to the muscular system.

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EDITORS' TABLE.

EDITORS: A. S. PACKARD, JR., AND E. D. COPE.

— The consensus of scientific opinion regarding the mental condition of Guiteau, is at present identical with that expressed in our editorial of August, 1881. The importance of the examination of the brain of this person has not been overlooked, and an investigation has accordingly been made. The brain was delivered to some medical gentlemen of Philadelphia, and the report of one of them has been published in the newspapers. The result is about what was to have been anticipated where a simply medical expert is selected for such a work. The business of the physician being to alleviate and cure disease, his studies are chiefly in the direction of pathology (or diseased structure) and therapeutics. So the investigation of the brain of Guiteau, as reported by Dr. Shakespeare, was confined to a search for the evidence of disease. Like the other medical experts who testified during the trial, he seems to be ignorant of the science of anthropology, and of the various types of structure presented by the mammalian and especially the human brain. As was the case during the trial, the question of malformation is not referred to. Yet all mental qualities, normal and abnormal, doubtless depend on peculiarities of brain structure, such as may be totally independent of the question of disease. The study of the rela-

tive sizes, etc., of the masses forming the brain, is but the threshold of the investigation. The study of the cell-structure, on which so much depends, is a work of years, and the science of the anatomy of these parts has yet to be created. And yet the report before us does not hesitate to enter the perilous question of responsibility, and to make assertions regarding the freedom of Guiteau's will! Truly the need of an education in the natural sciences for medical men was never more strikingly displayed than in the Guiteau trial, and this its irrelevant appendix.

— It is just now the fashion among the editors of the newspaper press to decry Arctic exploration. The scientific results to be obtained by such investigations are, however, too important to be surrendered to a temporary sentiment. As long as persons are found willing to undertake such expeditions, they should be sent, and the responsibility of their fate will rest with themselves alone.

The loss of most of Lieut. DeLong's party, however, is the more to be regretted since it seems to have been unnecessary. The greater part of their number might apparently have been saved, had they divested themselves of the unreasonable prejudice against eating human flesh.

— It has been reported that a number of the council of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, agreed to a proposition to meet in 1884, in Montreal. It is further reported that other members have expressed dissatisfaction with this course, and desire to have the decision reversed. Such a meeting in this country would undoubtedly interfere with the meeting of the American Association the same year by drawing members from it. The more agreeable alternative would be to have the meetings combined into one grand association. The only objection to this proposition is the greater mass of papers that would be brought before such a meeting, and the greater length of time required to transact its business than has hitherto been thought available for the meetings of either association.

This objection could be gotten over by restricting the number of papers; but the difficulty of doing this satisfactorily is obvious.

— The editor of the *Gardeners' Monthly*, who is also a contributor to the New York *Independent*, has several times recently presented himself as an antagonist of the *NATURALIST*. Being placed by our critic in the excellent company of Mr. Darwin, Professor Gray and Mr. Riley, we have heretofore permitted our friend to enjoy the diversion all to himself. We had hoped that the failure of his attempted corrections of these well-known authorities, would have inspired him with a little caution. But we now think it time to apply the language used by the late Mr. Darwin in a letter to one of our editors, that this gentleman "is the most inaccurate man he had ever known." We think Mr.

Darwin a little severe, however, when he says, "he has done more injury to science in America, than he had ever done it good." If he had said Philadelphia instead of America, we would have been more disposed to agree with him.

— We publish to-day an article on the Calaveras skull, by the distinguished naturalist, Dr. W. O. Ayres. Dr. Ayres gives the fossil mammalia found in the Pliocene gold gravel of California (p. 851) as the "rhinoceros, Elotherium, horse, ox, camel, etc." We pointed out in the NATURALIST for January, 1880, that the occurrence of rhinoceros and Elotherium in these beds is impossible, unless transported from a long distance. The Elotherium, especially, could only have been brought there by man from Central Oregon or farther off. For camel should be read lama.

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RECENT LITERATURE.

HOUGH'S ELEMENTS OF FORESTRY.¹—There has long been a demand for a book on the important subject of forestry, and in some respects that want is now met in the book under consideration. The general plan of Dr. Hough's book is excellent, and difficult as the subject is, he has in the main succeeded well in presenting it in an interesting and instructive manner. The successive chapters treat of soils and their preparation; climate, etc.; reproduction from seed; propagation; buds, leaves, wood, etc.; general views in regard to forestry; forestry laws; European forestry; ornamental planting; hedges, etc.; cutting and seasoning of wood; fuel, charcoal, etc.; forest fires; other injuries; insects; preservation of wood; turpentine, rosin, and other products. The chapters covering the foregoing subjects take up somewhat more than one-half of the book, and they are for the most part quite satisfactory. The one which is most disappointing is that on insects. We may hope that in a second edition this chapter will be rewritten and supplied with figures of American insects instead of European ones.

The second half of the book consists of descriptions of particular species, beginning with the oaks. The treatment here is not as satisfactory as in the previous chapters; many important trees receive but a passing notice, if any, while others of little more or even of less value, have long paragraphs and even several pages devoted to them. For example, the red oak (*Quercus rubra*) is not mentioned, while *Q. hinesii*, *Q. densiflora* and *Q. agrifolia*, of Cali-

¹ *The Elements of Forestry*, designed to afford information concerning the planting and care of forest trees for ornament or profit, and giving suggestions upon the care of woodlands, with the view of securing the greatest benefit for the longest time, particularly adapted to the wants and conditions of the United States. By FRANKLIN B. HOUGH, Ph.D., Chief of Forestry Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, member of the American Philosophical Society, etc. Cincinnati, Robert Clark & Co., 1880.